



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND  
NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND HEADQUARTERS  
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IN REPLY REFER TO  
NAVAIRINST 5451.98  
AIR-7.1.1  
28 Nov 95

NAVAIR INSTRUCTION 5451.98

From: Commander, Naval Air Systems Command

Subj: MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS FOR THE NAVAL TEST WING  
ATLANTIC AND NAVAL TEST WING PACIFIC AND SUBORDINATE  
ACTIVITIES

Ref: (a) OPNAVNOTE 5450 Ser 09B22/5U509576 of 8 May 95

- Encl: (1) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Test Wing Atlantic,  
Patuxent River, MD  
(2) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Strike Aircraft Test  
Squadron, Patuxent River, MD  
(3) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Rotary Wing Aircraft  
Test Squadron, Patuxent River, MD  
(4) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Force Aircraft Test  
Squadron, Patuxent River, MD  
(5) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Test Pilot School,  
Point Mugu, CA  
(6) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Test Wing Pacific,  
Point Mugu, CA  
(7) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Weapons Test Squadron  
China Lake, China Lake, CA  
(8) Functions and Tasks of the Naval Weapons Test Squadron  
Point Mugu, Point Mugu, CA

1. Purpose. To publish the functions and tasks of the Naval Test Wing Atlantic (NAVTESTWINGLANT), Patuxent River, MD, and Naval Test Wing Pacific (NAVTESTWINGPAC), Pt. Mugu, CA, and their subordinate activities under the missions established by reference (a).

2. Overseas Diplomacy. NAVTESTWINGLANT and NAVTESTWINGPAC serves as effective instruments of U.S. Foreign Policy by initiating and continuing action programs that promote positive relations between the commands and foreign nationals, and assist individual naval personnel and their families to work effectively, live with dignity and satisfaction, and function as positive representative of the Navy and of the United States while overseas.

3. Action. In accomplishing the assigned missions, the Commanders/Commanding Officers, NAVTESTWINGLANT and NAVTESTWINGPAC will ensure performance of the functions and tasks



28 Nov 95

in enclosures (1) through (8). Send recommended changes via the chain of command to COMNAVAIRSYSCOM, Strategic Resource Management Support Division (AIR-7.1.1).



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**MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL TEST WING ATLANTIC PATUXENT RIVER, MD**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Test Wing Atlantic (NAVTESTWINGLANT), Patuxent River, MD, is as follows:

To be the Navy's principal Atlantic flight and ground test activity for all naval aviation systems TEAM-controlled aircraft and aircraft functions engaged in Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) of aircraft and aircraft systems; and, to perform such other functions as may be directed by higher authority.

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVTESTWINGLANT is a shore activity in an active status under a Commander.

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic

b. Area Coordination:

Commandant, Naval District Washington, DC

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVTESTWINGLANT is exercised by the Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, Patuxent River, MD.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVTESTWINGLANT is responsible for the following functions:

a. Provide practices, processes and policies for governing the operations, maintenance and safety of the functionally oriented flight Test Squadrons.

b. Develop methodology for participation in installed system testing.

c. Provide oversight/approval of all Test Wing aircrew in tests conducted by other services or contractor flight establishments.

d. Provide oversight on resident contractor flight operations.

**MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL STRIKE AIRCRAFT TEST SQUADRON PATUXENT RIVER, MD**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Strike Aircraft Test Squadron (NAVSTKAIRTESTRON), Patuxent River, MD, is as follows:

To be the Navy's flight and ground test activity for all fixed-wing fighter, attack, and other specifically designated aircraft and aircraft functions engaged in RDT&E of aircraft and aircraft systems.

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVSTKAIRTESTRON is a shore activity in an active status under a Commanding Officer.

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic
- 5 Commanding Officer, Naval Strike Aircraft Test

Squadron

b. Area Coordination:

Commandant, Naval District Washington, DC

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVSTKAIRTESTRON is exercised by the Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVSTKAIRTESTRON is responsible for the following functions:

a. Provide capability to support assigned Naval Air Systems Team controlled aircraft and aircraft functions.

b. Develop methodology for participation in installed system testing.

c. Review all aircraft modification/flight clearance requests.

d. Provide aircraft configuration control and management of aircraft resources to maintain a safe and viable test and evaluation capability.

e. Provide aircraft organizational maintenance, flight record keeping, and aircraft utilization.

f. Train and qualify aircrew.

g. Conduct an aviation safety/NATOPS program and insure compliance with local HAZMAT, and industrial safety and explosive safety certification programs.

h. Perform flight and ground tests.

4. Tasks. Serve as the executive for the operations and policies for the Carrier Suitability, ATC/Landing Systems and Ordnance Support Teams.

**MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT TEST SQUADRON PATUXENT RIVER, MD**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Rotary Wing Aircraft Test Squadron (NAVRWAIRTESTRON), Patuxent River, MD, is as follows:

To be the Navy's flight and ground test activity for all rotary wing aircraft and aircraft functions engaged in RDT&E of aircraft and aircraft systems; and to perform such other functions as may be directed by higher authority.

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVRWAIRTESTRON is a shore activity in an active status under a Commanding Officer.

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic
- 5 Commanding Officer, Naval Rotary Wing Aircraft Test Squadron

b. Area Coordination:

Commandant, Naval District Washington, DC

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVRWAIRTESTRON is exercised by the Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVRWAIRTESTRON is responsible for the following functions:

- a. Provide capability to support assigned Naval Air Systems Team controlled aircraft and aircraft functions.
- b. Develop methodology for participation in installed system testing.
- c. Review all aircraft modification/flight clearance requests.
- d. Provide aircraft configuration control and management of aircraft resources to maintain a safe and viable test and evaluation capability.
- e. Provide aircraft organizational maintenance, flight record keeping, and aircraft utilization.
- f. Train and qualify aircrew.
- g. Conduct an aviation safety/NATOPS program and insure compliance with local HAZMAT, and industrial safety and explosive safety certification programs.

h. Perform flight and ground test.

4. Tasks. Serve as the executive for the operations and policies for the Dynamic Interface Support Team.

**MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL FORCE AIRCRAFT TEST SQUADRON PATUXENT RIVER, MD**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Force Aircraft Test Squadron (NAVFORAIRTESTRON), Patuxent River, MD, is as follows:

To be the Navy's flight and ground test activity for all fixed-wing anti-surface, anti-submarine, airborne early warning, command and control, strategic airborne communications, airborne surveillance, electronic intelligence collection and warfare, tanker, carrier on-board delivery, trainer, utility, support, and specifically designated aircraft and aircraft functions engaged in RDT&E of aircraft and aircraft systems; and to perform such other functions as may be directed by higher authority.

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVFORAIRTESTRON is a shore activity in an active status under a Commanding Officer.

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic
- 5 Commanding Officer, Naval Force Aircraft Test Squadron

b. Area Coordination:

Commandant, Naval District Washington, DC

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVFORAIRTESTRON is exercised by the Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVFORAIRTESTRON is responsible for the following functions:

a. Provide capability to support assigned Naval Air Systems Team controlled aircraft and aircraft functions.

b. Develop methodology for participation in installed system testing.

c. Review all aircraft modification/flight clearance requests.

Provide aircraft configuration control and management of aircraft resources to maintain a safe and viable test and evaluation capability.

e. Provide aircraft organizational maintenance, flight record keeping and aircraft utilization.



- f. Train and qualify aircrew.
- g. Conduct an aviation safety/NATOPS program and insure compliance with local HAZMAT, and industrial safety programs.
- h. Perform flight and ground tests.

**MISSION, FUNCTION, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL TEST PILOT SCHOOL PATUXENT RIVER, MD**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Test Pilot School (NAVTESTPILOTSCH), Patuxent River, MD, is as follows:

To be the Navy's support activity for providing instruction to experienced pilots, flight officers and engineers in the processes and techniques of aircraft and systems Test and Evaluation T&E); and, to perform such other functions as may be directed by higher authority.

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVTESTPILOTSCH is a shore activity in an active status under a Commanding Officer.

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic
- 5 Commanding Officer, Naval Test Pilot School

b. Area Coordination:

Commandant, Naval District Washington, DC

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVTESTPILOTSCH is exercised by the Commander, Naval Test Wing Atlantic.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVTESTPILOTSCH is responsible for the following functions:

a. Provide instruction to experienced pilots, flight officers, and engineers in the processes and techniques of fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft and systems test and evaluation.

b. Manage aircraft resources to maintain a safe and viable test and evaluation training capability.

c. Provide support for flight records, maintenance, aircraft utilization, and aircrew training/currency.

d. Conduct organizational maintenance for all assigned aircraft.

e. Provide an aviation safety/NATOPS program and compliance with local HAZMAT and industrial safety.

**MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL TEST WING POINT MUGU, CA**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Test Wing Pacific (NAVTESTWINGPAC), Point Mugu Ca., is as follows:

To be the Navy's principal Pacific flight and ground test support activity for all naval aviation systems TEAM-controlled aircraft and aircraft functions engaged in RDT&E of weapons and weapons systems; and to perform such other functions as may be directed by higher authority.

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVTESTWINGPAC is a shore activity in an active status under a Commander

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Pacific

b. Area Coordination:

CINCPACFLT to be exercised through COMNAVBASE, San Diego CA.

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVTESTWINGPAC is exercised by the Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division, China Lake, Ca.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVTESTWINGPAC is responsible for the following functions:

a. Provide practices, processes and policies for governing the operations, maintenance and safety of the functionally oriented Weapons Test Squadrons.

b. Develop methodology for participation in installed system testing.

c. Provide oversight and approval of all Test Wing aircrew in tests conducted by other services or contractor flight establishments.

d. Provide oversight on resident contractor flight operations.

**MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL WEAPONS TEST SQUADRON CHINA LAKE, CA**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Weapons Test Squadron, China Lake, CA, (NAVWPNTSTRON China Lake, CA), is as follows:

To be the Navy's flight and ground test support activity for all China Lake sited NAVAIRSYSCOM aircraft and aircraft functions engaged in RDT&E of weapons and weapons systems, support activities utilizing the China Lake Land Range T&E complex and to perform such other functions as may be directed by higher authority.

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVWPNTSTRON China Lake is a shore activity in an active status under a Commanding Officer.

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Pacific
- 5 Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Test Squadron, China Lake, CA

b. Area Coordination:

CINCPACFLT to be exercised through COMNAVBASE, San Diego, CA.

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVWPNTSTRON China Lake, is exercised by the Commander, Naval Test Wing Pacific.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVWPNTSTRON China Lake is responsible for the following functions:

- a. Provide capability to support assigned Naval Air Systems Team, controlled aircraft and aircraft functions.
- b. Perform flight and ground tests.
- c. Develop methodology for participation in installed system testing.
- d. Provide aircraft organizational and intermediate maintenance, flight record keeping, and aircraft utilization.
- e. Review all aircraft modification/flight clearance requests. Approve all aircraft modification/flight clearance requests within assigned delegation authority. Install approved aircraft modifications as requested by customers.

- f. Provide aircraft configuration control and management of aircraft resources to maintain a safe and viable test and evaluation capability.
- g. Review and approve all Flight and Ground Test Plans for projects utilizing assigned aircraft and/or aircrew.
- h. Provide Search and Rescue for local flying area.
- i. Provide logistics aircraft support.
- j. Train and qualify aircrew.
- k. Conduct an aviation safety/NATOPS program and insure compliance with local HAZMAT, and industrial safety and explosive safety certification programs.

**MISSION, FUNCTIONS, AND TASKS OF THE  
NAVAL WEAPONS TEST SQUADRON POINT MUGU, CA**

1. Mission. As directed by reference (a), the mission of the Naval Weapons Test Squadron, Point Mugu, CA, (NAVWPNTSTRON Point Mugu, CA), is as follows:

To be the Navy's flight and ground test support activity for all Point Mugu-sited NAVAIRSYSCOM aircraft and aircraft functions engaged in RDT&E of weapons and weapons systems support activities utilizing the Point Mugu Sea Range and China Lake Land Range T&E complexes; and to perform such other functions as may be directed by higher authority

2. Status and Command Relationship. NAVWPNTSTRON, Point Mugu, CA, is a shore activity in an active status under a Commanding Officer.

a. Command Echelon:

- 1 Chief of Naval Operations
- 2 Commander, Naval Air Systems Command
- 3 Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division
- 4 Commander, Naval Test Wing Pacific
- 5 Commanding Officer, Naval Weapons Test Squadron, Point Mugu, CA

b. Area Coordination:

Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet to be exercised through the Commander, Naval Base, San Diego, CA

c. Primary support responsibility for NAVWPNTSTRON Point Mugu is exercised by the Commander, Naval Test Wing Pacific.

3. Functions. In accomplishing the assigned mission, the NAVWPNTSTRON, Point. Mugu, is responsible for the following functions:

a. Provide capability to support assigned Naval Air Systems Team controlled aircraft and aircraft functions.

b. Develop methodology for participation in installed system testing.

c. Review all aircraft modification/flight clearance requests and approve, within assigned delegation authority, prior to installation/flight in assigned aircraft.

d. Provide aircraft configuration control and management of aircraft resources to maintain a safe and viable test and evaluation capability.

e. Provide aircraft organizational and intermediate maintenance, flight record keeping, and aircraft utilization.

- f. Train and qualify aircrew.
- g. Conduct an aviation safety/NATOPS program and ensure compliance with local HAZMAT, and industrial safety and explosive safety certification programs.
- h. Perform flight and ground test.
- i. Provide Test Range data collection support worldwide in the form of aircraft and aircrew.
- j. Provide for logistics aircraft support.
- k. Provide Full Scale Aerial Target aircraft and aircrew support at all DoD ranges